1	2	3	4
		1994-95 (BE)	
Elementary Education	523.22	12064.68	12587.90
Higher Education	581.88	2671.74	3253.62
Total Education	2420.26	24756.97	27177.23

Bhutanese Refugees

555. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that thousands of Bhutanese refugees have taken shelter in the Indo-Nepal border areas;

(b) whether some of these refugees while participating in appeal march to return to Bhutan have been arrested and jailed by the police of West Bengal;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of refugees arrested so far;

(d) whether it is a fact that one of the refugees died in a Central Jail in West Bengal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Government are aware of the movement of Bhutanese citizens of Nepalese origin from their place of origin to camps in Nepal. Some groups have attempted to march from Nepal through Indian territory towards Bhutan in order to agitate the matter of their status and their demands. It is the consistent policy of the Government of not allowing political activities on Indian soil directed against friendly countries. Hence prohibitory orders have been imposed by the competent authorities. 1896 persons were taken into protective custody, in accordance with the laws of the land, for violating the prohibitory orders. Most of them have already been released.

(d) and (e). It is learnt that one of the detinees Shri Babu Ram Tamang, who was suffering from tuberculosis, passed away on 13 June 1996 in the Berhampur Central Jail.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for Physical Education

556 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to the States to improve the standard of physical education in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of states which have placed their demand in this regard as well as the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the extent of financial assistance sanctioned to each state during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no scheme under which Government propose to provide financial assistance to the states to improve the standards of physical education in schools.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Gratuity to Retired Workers of CIL

557. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the retired workers of Coal India Limited have not been paid gratuity till date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which their gratuity will be paid;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the workers are not being provided the benefit of LTC for the last two years; and

(d) if so, the time by which the unpaid amount pertaining to LTC is likely to be paid to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) :(a) and (b). As per information furnished by Coal India Ltd., the payments of gratuity to its retired employees have generally been made in time. However, there has been delay in cases relating to one of the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited upon its being confronted with a severe crash crunch or where the claimants had not completed the requisite procedural formalities.

(c) and (d). Financial constraints faced by a subsidiary company of Coal India Limited have led to delay in provision of LTC benefit to the workers. While efforts are being made to remedy the situation, indicating a definite time limit therefor does not seem possible.

Review of National Policy on Education

558. SHRI T. GOPALKRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken the review of the National Policy on Education since its implementation; and